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THE WEEKLY COMMERCIAL,
A LARGE SHEET CONTAINING ALL THE CURRENT NEWS, MISCELLANEOUS, LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE AND VALUABLE READING FOR THE FAMILY.

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CITY ITEMS.

L'n. L'n. L'n.

Lapidists, lawyers and laborers have tried and tested the good qualities of Sawyer's Barber's Soap. Price thirty cents a cake.

Superstition Versus Facts.

Among the many instances of the peculiar tenacity with which the mind clings to youth, is perhaps that related in history, of Ponce de Leon, an early Spanish adventurer. It seems he was so much infatuated with this hope, that it finally became a belief with him that it was attainable. Under this impression history speaks of him,as having embarked upon an expedition through the beautiful and ever blooming Floridas, with the idea of finding a spring, the water of which he had brought himself to believe would give him perpetual youth.

In this matter of fact age, however, results plainly discover that we must look to the developements of science and chemistry for an approximation toward this desired end, and if it is to be regretted that the excellent and unrivalled Bitters of Dr. Roback was a century or more too late to be availed of by this eminent personage, it would not only have saved this worthy Knight the expense of his quixotic expedition, but the benefit of this valuable remedy would be manifested in improved physical and mental superiority of the Knights of "Southern Chivalry.

Central Skating Park.

The Meagher Bros. have arrived, and will give their truly wonderful exhibitions every afternoon and evening this week, weather favorable, commencing on Monday evening. These justly celebrated Canadians have won an enviable reputation in every city which they have visited. Their feats on the ice are marvelous, and must be seen to be appreciated. Chicago, Detroit and all our large cities turned out *en masse* to see them. The "Oratorial Queen," Miss Carrie A. Moore, closes her engagement to-morrow afternoon. Don't fail to see her.

Corns, Bunions.

And Diseased Nails instantaneously and efficaciously cured. Dr. Rendall can be consulted for a few days at heretofore at No. 20 Fifth street. Office hours 12 to 4 o'clock.

Furnished Room.

A gentleman wants a furnished room with fire and gas, as near the Postoffice as possible. Address "C," Commercial office.

Country Merchants.

Now that prices are advancing, will find it greatly to their interest to visit the Dry Goods establishment of Barker & Co., 89 Market street, where they will find the largest and best selected stock in the city, furnished in prints, and other stable goods, at the very lowest eastern prices.

Sewing Machines.

Two heavy manufacturing and two family machines of a good manufacture, for sale cheap at Wheeler & Wilson's agency, No. 27 Fifth street.

Central Skating Park.

Only two more days of the engagement with Miss Carrie A. Moore, the "Oratorial Queen." Those wishing to witness the wonderful performances of this skater should embrace this their last opportunity, as Miss Moore intends starting direct for the east early in February, and probably will not appear again in this country. Matinee afternoon and evening of Saturday and Monday, February 10th and 12th, if the weather is no more unfavorable than at present. See the usual bulletins posted in the city.

Best Prints,

New styles, at 9½c, at Barker & Co.'s, 89 Market st.

Purviance's Card Photographs.

Are taken in any weather, in all the various popular styles, singly or by the dozen, at 25 cents each. We guarantee satisfaction. Gallery corner Fifth and Market streets.

At 25 Cents

Fine shirting muslin, 36 inches wide, extra yard wide, at 25c, double width shirting, 37½c, at Barker & Co.'s, 89 Market street.

Rare Chance

For a paying investment. For sale—good will and stock of a hat, cap and ladies' fur house, with a well established trade, doing a first rate business, in a good location. Store handsomely fitted up. Lease two years from first of March next. Capital required from $7,000 to $8,000. For further particulars, address A. B., Commercial office.

Thirty Dollars Reward.

Lost, on Saturday last another containing money. The above reward will be paid by leaving it with H. P. Gengembre, No. 10 St. Clair street.

The Daily Commercial

THE Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company have received advices of a safe arrival at Liverpool of the steamship Somerset. A full return cargo was engaged. The Baltimore *Commercial* says: "It is also interesting to learn that most of the importers of the West and Southwest, and of Cincinnati and Pittsburgh, have declared their determination to use the Baltimore route exclusively, and in many cases have ordered their agents in Liverpool to wait for weeks, if necessary, for Baltimore steamers." In these facts are reasons of great force why the Connellsville Railroad should be driven through without delay. When will Pittsburgh resolve that it shall be done?

STATE ITEMS.

Charles A. Poulson, Esq., a well known citizen of Philadelphia, died in that city on Thursday, in the 77th year of his age.

The appointment of R. S. M'Cormick, a retired attorney, as Associate Judge of Venango county, elsewhere in a grade of this paper, will be acceptable for a new judicial district, as the new Judge, being learned in the law, will greatly relieve the presiding Judge in disposing of the business of the district.

Rev. J. C. Zachos, of West Newton, Massachusetts, has received and accepted a call to become the pastor of the Unitarian Society in Meadville. He will also be appointed Professor in the Meadville Theological School, as Professor of Rhetoric and Oratory.

The Titusville *Herald* announces that several insurance companies have become frightened at the fires that have occurred there, and are giving notice of their intention to cancel their policies. The Indemnity Company seems to be most conspicuous in this movement, and has notified several parties of their intention to cancel their policies.

The suspension bridge across the Allegheny river, at Oil City, is to be completed by the first of September next. The stock has all been taken, and Mr. Gilman, the contractor, pays a heavy forfeit if the structure is not completed at the time specified.

Gen. Joohn R. Brooke, of Pottstown, recently resigned his position in the U. S. army, the resignation taking effect on the 1st of February. He has purchased an interest in the Thorndale Iron Works, Chester county.

The debt of Northampton county is put down at $54,402. There is, however, over $15,000 in the Treasury and $16,000 due on outstanding taxes for the two past years, a part of which will be paid.

The debt of Lebanon county is $55,151—but there is a balance of $26,555 in the of the Treasurer, and outstanding taxes amounting to $8,917,—so that the real debt of the county is only about $25,500.

Captain Samuel Gregory, a well known and highly esteemed citizen of Hereford township, Berks county, died on the 19th of January at the advanced age of 77 years. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, and served as sergeant of one of the Berks county companies that marched to Baltimore. He lived and died a bachelor.

The Pottstown *Ledger* states that a farm of about 90 acres, in Amity township, Berks county, bounded by Monocacy creek and Reading railroad, nearly opposite the Monocacy furnace, was sold recently to a Mr. Thomas Mills, of Cooke & Co., of Schuylkill county, for $7,000. The property was formerly owned by the Monocacy furnace company. The new proprietor contemplate erecting a bridge over the Schuylkill at the farm, and it is rumored that a Rolling Mill is to be put up on the property.

Nicholas Riley, convicted of murder in the second degree, in the Blair county Criminal Court, has been sentenced to the Western Penitentiary for a term of six years.

The O'Donald distillery, in New Bethlehem, Clarion county, was destroyed by fire on Thursday evening. Loss $1,500, which is covered by insurance.

A smart attorney of Meadville, followed the President of an Oil Company to Franklin, on Thursday last, and had a subpœna for summons served upon the unsuspecting President, to answer a plea of debt against his oil company.

A fire broke out in Pithole City Thursday morning, destroying the Tremont House, where it originated, and the Pithole House, valued at about $17,000. No insurance. Water from two wells on the hillside was thrown upon the flames, which were soon subdued. It was soon discovered that what was supposed to be water was pure oil. Real estate has increased accordingly in value.

Tatlow Jackson, the agent of the Atlantic and Great Western Railway Company, has addressed a note to George Northrop, Esq., of Philadelphia, which was read in the State Senate acquitting Northrop and W. H. Witte of any design to appropriate the $25,000 obtained for lobbying through the Legislature the canal bill. He had employed them as counsel in the case.

The Philadelphia papers have been enjoying a sensation created by an alleged haunted house on Fifth street in that city. Books were thrown about by an invisible hand, tables overturned, and no end of rapping occurred in the house, and reporters and others were puzzled to explain the matter. Rev. Samuel Durborrow solved the mystery, by coming upon a spiritual circle in the house, and by the exercise of the authority of the head of the house. The spiritualists were interrogated by the minister, who asked if they were believers in Jesus Christ. On receiving an affirmative answer, they had prayer, when "the devil's workings" ceased, since when the singular manifestations have ceased.

SPRING BUSINESS—CHEERFUL VIEW.—The Baltimore *Commercial* takes a cheerful and comprehensive view of the approaching business season, in an article concluding as follows: "Let none despond. So far, at least, the prophecies of evil and terrible suffering in the South can hardly be said to be realized; and the Spring, not four weeks off, the hope may well be expressed that the worst is over. With the Government standing by, through the Freedmen's Bureau, to lasso rations where most pressing's needed, it has done much to ward off starvation and suffering already; and with the troubles of the present season surmounted, we have little fear but that the South will have plain sailing in the future. Trusting then to a good Providence, and in a promising future, let us go forward in a cheerful endeavor to reorganize every shattered interest."

FIRST EDITION.

12 O'CLOCK, M.

WASHINGTON.

Speech of Hon. Thomas Williams.

He Opposes the President's Restoration Policy.

THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL SERVICES.

Ravages of the Kinderpest Increasing.

The Cholera Still at Malta.

Freedmen's Bureau Bill Opposed by the President.

Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, February 10, 1866.

Speech of Hon. Thomas Williams.

The House was in session, as usual, on Saturday, for debate only. Three speeches were made, severally, by Wood, of New York, Delano, of Ohio, and Williams, of Pennsylvania. The latter speech elicited the greatest attention on the floor and from the spectators, as it proved to be a severe onslaught on the President's policy of restoration. The speaker declared against the admission of any Southern Representatives, and was opposed to the local State Governments set up in the South. He was entirely opposed to the late insurgent States having any equality in the Union until they meted out equal and exact justice to all men within their borders. A lively bill of the members gathered around Mr. Williams during his speech, and gave good rounds of applause when he concluded.

The Memorial Ceremonies.

There will be no business transacted in either House on Monday, as the memorial ceremonies will take place at noon, after which each body will adjourn for the day.

An Authoritative Contradiction

Of the statement is furnished that the recent conference of Generals here had any consideration to the question of trying Jeff. Davis by the Military Commission.

The Kinderpest.

Dispatches received to-day at the State Department from our Consuls at Liverpool and London, show the kinderpest is increasing with great rapidity, and the latest report says that it will not take many days to rid the entire kingdom of cattle at the present ratio of deaths. Ten thousand new cases had broken out in one week in January last. The number that have died thus far from the disease is sixty-three thousand.

The Cholera.

Our Consul at Malta writes that the cholera has not permanently abandoned that place. The physicians think it will increase in the spring.

To be Mustered Out.

On Tuesday fifteen additional paymasters will be mustered out of service, there being no longer any use for them.

Seventy thousand more applications to witness the memorial service on Monday have been made than there are seats.

The President Opposed to the Freedmen's Bureau bill.

The *Star* says the President is opposed to the bill just passed by both branches of Congress of the Freedmen's bureau to Maryland, Missouri and Delaware, and that he will return it to Congress to be modified in accordance with his views.

XXXIXth CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION

WASHINGTON, February 10.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MR. ROGERS, of New Jersey, gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill to repeal all acts of Congress exempting Government securities from Federal taxation, and to provide for taxing them by the Federal Government, and authorizing the States to tax them in the same way as other property. He also gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill giving bounties to soldiers and sailors and equal to higher Government bounty given at any time during the war, and also to equalize bounties.

MR. WARD, of New York, said he should not now enter into the discussion of the question as to whether the States which, by the action of their people and officials, had destroyed their union with the United States, had assumed that the legal relation of the States to the Union was not destroyed, and would stand upon the declaration of the lamented President Lincoln, that they were out of their practical relations with the Union, and, deal with the question practically. They had committed the highest crime of laws, and should not be allowed to control their own State Governments, or have any representation in the Union, unless they gave security for the future; that security demanded that we should hand the leaders of the late rebellion over to the loyal men, so that their protection should be secure. We should establish the fundamental law, so that it would be beyond the reprices of Southern legislation, the principle of the equality of all citizens and classes, and vest them with all the franchises and powers necessary to defend and protect that equality. He would punish certain leaders of the rebellion for treason, so that that crime should be odious for all time to come. He would, before any of these men to come back, to make laws for the widow whose husband they had slain, and for the orphan whose father they had murdered, require them to do all this; and when the republic was reconstructed on a sound and just basis, and the Southern States show a sense of returning patriotism, then he would take them by the hand and lift them up to a higher national life, and, united, we would conduct the nation to its imperial destiny as the greatest and the best form of government on earth.

MR. DELANO, of Ohio, examined the present political position of the States lately in rebellion, and said that on its solution depends the present happiness of this nation. They ought, he said, to consider the question with a proper appreciation of their honest differences. Whether among members of Congress, or between them and other Departments of the Government, his purpose had been in all his examinations to be unbiassed toward those from whom he asked a like exercise of charity. He sincerely believed that if they were all animated by that same spirit, the threatening clouds would pass away, and they would find themselves adjusting these measures in harmony and with the approbation of all, and thus would be sustained and preserved that party which, he believed, thank God, was raised up to do a great work in this land of liberty. There was a class of persons who insist that the late rebellious States are States in every sense of the word, in the Union, and are entitled to the right to demand representation on this floor. He did not know whether they were willing to admit representatives whose hands were yet red with the blood of our slaughtered contrymen. He did not belong to that class. He believed that these States are to-day in with the right of local and domestic legislation; yet he did not believe they now were in a condition to demand the admission of their representatives. Another class maintained that these States are dead and conquered provinces, and subject to be ruled by the law of Congress as any other territory. He had no more faith in this theory than he had in the doctrine, for he believed that these States have been destroyed and blotted out of being that Congress may thus govern them at its own pleasure. He, therefore, would not follow this theory of the gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. Stevens. That announcement startled him when it was first made, for he saw the consequence that if carried out, it would lead to the destruction of the Union. He was sorry that the gentleman (Mr. Stevens) was not above the assertion of that opinion.

MR. DELANO pointed out and considered the fearful consequences of that theory, arguing that the concession of belligerent right and the ruling in the prize cases did not convert them into foreign enemies. He some months since heard the key note of the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Stevens) that the property of ten millions of people should be subject to confiscation, and disposed of in part for the payment of the public debt, in part for the donation of the emancipated race, and to increase the pensions of those who suffered in the late war. He was shocked with the enormities of that scheme of mineral plunder, and he felt as if America would lose her reputation before the nations of the earth if she should adopt it. But it was based on the theory of dead States and conquered provinces, and those who put forth this theory had an intellect sufficiently clear to run out the proposition in all its logical consequences. The Duke of Alba executed the decree of a bigoted monster while in the Netherlands, but this gigantic scheme of plunder would make the Duke of Alba blush and admit that he was not a robber or murderer of a high character. Cromwell sent his Ironsides into Scotland to devastate that country, and withless there the infamous scheme of punishing with the halter and bloody axe; but before that scheme of plunder proposed by a member of this House, he stood appalled.

MR. STEVENS said he was absent from the hall when the gentleman made the allusion to him, and he desired now to observe that he had never held the doctrine that the Southern States were dead, but had argued that it made no difference what acts they did out of the Union as to the question of reconstruction. He held that those states were organized under another Government besides our own, but the gentleman mistook his position as to confiscation. He did not advocate a general sweep, but that the lands of a large number of the rebels ought to be confiscated in order to meet the expenses incurred in putting down the rebellion, and to increase the pensions of soldiers.

MR. WILLIAMS, of Pennsylvania, next spoke. In the course of his remarks, which were prolonged about two hours, he said that the word restoration was heard on the return of the Stuarts, and he expressed the hope that it was not ominous as to the future.

The House, at five o'clock, adjourned.

GOOD, IF LIVED UP TO.—The following is one of the resolutions adopted by the Virginia Legislature, which the delegation from that State bore to the President. As a piece of profession, it contrasts widely with the every-day practice in Virginia:

3. That involuntary servitude, except for crime, is abolished, and ought not to be reestablished; and that the freedmen among us should be treated with justice, humanity and good faith, and every means that the wisdom of the Legislature can devise should be used to make them useful and intelligent members of society.

ROMAN CATHOLICISM IN PHILADELPHIA.—A letter in the *Tablet* from Philadelphia says: "The great advancement of Catholicity throughout the United States is a subject for congratulation on the part of every Catholic, and on the record of its progress this diocese is entitled to a high position, probably of higher prominence than any other diocese in the country. The Catholics of this diocese number 250,000; of that number 125,000 are residents of this city, and the thirty-five churches are inadequate for the accommodation of this large number. The demand for priests and churches continues increasing to such an extent that much difficulty is felt in supplying them."

THE VIRGINIA DELEGATION.

Interesting Interview With the President.

Speeches of President and Mr. Baldwin.

WASHINGTON, February 10.—This afternoon a committee from the Senate and House of Delegates of the State of Virginia, called upon President Johnson, for the purpose of presenting him with resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of Virginia. The following named gentlemen constituted the Committee:—From the Senate, Messrs. F. Keer, A. S. Young and Dalet Carter. From the House of Delegates, Messrs. J. R. Baldwin, James Marshall, A. R. Grattan, A. G. Pendleton, and Wm. T. Jaynes. They are gentlemen of acknowledged ability, and it is claimed fully represent the State, geographically and politically, being from north, south, east and west Virginia, and of every shade of past and present politics. James Marshall a venerable looking gentleman, is a nephew of the celebrated Chief Justice Marshal. Messrs. Marshal and Grattan, and Judge Jaynes are among the ablest lawyers of the State. Mr. Baldwin, Speaker of the House of Delegates, as chairman of the committee, presented the resolutions and delivered the following address in behalf of the committee:

Mr. President—We are a committee of Senators and Delegates sent to present to you, in person, certain resolutions which have received the unanimous approval of the General Assembly of Virginia. We come as representatives sent by one of the States of this Union, to confer with our constitutional President in regard to matters affecting the union and Government, and therefore of interest to all the States and all the people. We come to you, Mr. President, for the reason that you recognize our common interest in the Government under which we live, and because, thus far, we have been denied the constitutional means of communication by which other States and other people make known their opinions, purposes and feelings in the counsels of the nation. In declaring that the people of Virginia and their representatives accept and abide by the results of the late contest, and that they have kept the faith meet all the obligations thereby incurred, the General Assembly expresses a sentiment and a purpose which have been uniformly recognized by our people individually and in masses, and in regard to which there is no hesitation or dividing counsels. Cheerfully among the results this accepted is the universal conviction that the Union of the States is an established and an enduring fact, and that the whole future of our people is indissolubly bound up, for weal or woe, with the perpetuity of the Government of the United States. We recognize the Government as our Government in the Constitution as our Constitution—the institutions which it promises are our rights. Another sentiment alike accepted by our whole people is the final overthrow of the institution of slavery. This has been completed by a constitutional amendment, the binding force of which is universally admitted; for although we are not represented in the Congress by which it was proposed, the failure to be represented was our own choice.

The condition of the freedmen among us, and the policy to be adopted with regard to them, will be recognized by you as calling for the exercise of the highest statesmanship, philanthropy and the best feelings of the Christian philanthropist. The General Assembly of Virginia is engaged earnestly in devising measures for these subjects, and in anticipation of the results of their labors we can only say that whatever policy may be adopted, will be addressed in good faith and with kind feeling, to the improvement of the physical, intellectual and moral condition of our freedmen. You can understand, and will readily believe that the feelings of our people toward these States are those of sympathy and good will, and that to treat them with harshness or injustice is opposed to our own feelings as it is to our interests, and our sense of right. The policy pursued by Mr. Jefferson, Virginia and other great States in like condition, has its strong foundation in broad and comprehensive views of constitutional right and national policy, and must look for its ultimate success upon the conservative action of the people of one of all the States. It is due, however, to you and to our people, to assure you that when our General Assembly approved the proposed line of policy for the people of Virginia, they express what each one of the committee here present knows to be a living truth. It has been in your position places by men between us and a determined danger, and the General Assembly have but given voice to the real feelings of our people when they tender to you the warmest thanks of Virginia for the firm stand you have taken against the facility with which it is proposed to change the fundamental law. We would not, however, claim as the only or even the chief merit of the course you are taking, that it affords a resting point for the action of others. It is as the defender of the general Constitution, that you deserve and command the confidence and support of the people of the Union, and it will be hereafter remembered as your highest claim to the character of a republican statesman, that under all the trying circumstances by which you are surrounded, you have not only proclaimed the fundamental law of United States to be the supreme law of this land, but have defended it alike from violation and from innovation.

The President responded as follows:

Gentlemen:—To the resolutions which you have just presented, with your verbal explanations and concise remarks, which you have made in explanation of the position of Virginia, I shall not attempt to make a formal speech, but simply enter into a plain conversation in regard to the condition of things in which we stand, generally speaking. And I may say, permit me first to tender you my thanks for the kind, frank, and patriotic manner in which I feel in meeting so many intelligent, responsible and respectable men of Virginia, bearing to me the sentiments by the resolutions I have listened to, in the resolutions of your Legislature, and in the remarks accompanying them. They are, so far as they refer to the loyalty of the people, the sentiment and the principles embraced in the ordinance of the Convention for the restoration of the Union has been, from my entrance into public life, one of my cardinal tenets. At the very commencement of this rebellion, I set my face against the dissolution of the Union of the States. I do not mean to allude to it for the purpose of bringing up anything which has transpired which may be regarded as of an unfriendly character between the two Houses over as I believe now, and as you have most unmistakably indicated, that the security and protection of the rights of all the people can be found in the Union. Upon this conviction I based my opposition, to the extent that was then made to destroy the Union. I have continued those efforts, notwithstanding the perils through which I have passed, and at the present time, where that this trial has been a severe one. When opposition to the Government came from one section of the country and that the section in which my life had been passed, and with the interests of which I was identified, I stood as a stand now, contending for the Union and asseverating that the best and surest means to obtain our rights and to protect our interests was to remain in the Union under the Constitution as our fathers framed it. The ordeal through which we have passed during the last four or five years, demonstrates most conclusively the position I took at that time and to-day, after the experiment has been tried and has failed, after the demonstration has been most conclusively afforded, that the Union cannot be dissolved—that it was not designed to be dissolved. It is now conceded by all that I am correct gentlemen as intelligent and as responsible as yourselves, who are willing and anxious to accept, and do accept the situation, to defend the Constitution and render obedience to the laws made in pursuance thereof. We were in one period separated. The separation was to me painful in the extreme; but now, after having gone through a struggle in which the powers of the Government have been tried, when we have swung around to a point at which we meet to agree, and are willing to unite our efforts for the preservation of the Government which, I believe, is the best in the world. It is exceedingly gratifying to me to meet you to-day, standing upon common ground, rallying around the Constitution and Union of these States, the preservation of which, as I have already said, will be additional strength, will result in the promotion and the advancement of this people. I repeat, I am gratified for every reason, in meeting you here, and putting down the rebellion. Now as we swing around the circle of the Union we are fixed, unalterable determination to stand by it, and hold the counterpart or duplicate of the same spirit that has been manifested in the loyal portions of the South, this other extreme which stands in the way, must get out of it. The Government must and will maintain and remove upon its basis. The Government must be preserved. All the constitutional rights of all the people must look for its ultimate success upon the conservative action of the people of one of all the States. It is due, however, to you and to our people, to assure you that when our General Assembly approved the proposed line of policy for the people of Virginia, they express what each one of the committee here present knows to be a living truth. 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We were in one period separated. The separation was to me painful in the extreme; but now, after having gone through a struggle in which the powers of the Government have been tried, when we have swung around to a point at which we meet to agree, and are willing to unite our efforts for the preservation of the Government which, I believe, is the best in the world. It is exceedingly gratifying to me to meet you to-day, standing upon common ground, rallying around the Constitution and Union of these States, the preservation of which, as I have already said, will be additional strength, will result in the promotion and the advancement of this people. I repeat, I am gratified for every reason, in meeting you here, and putting down the rebellion. Now as we swing around the circle of the Union we are fixed, unalterable determination to stand by it, and hold the counterpart or duplicate of the same spirit that has been manifested in the loyal portions of the South, this other extreme which stands in the way, must get out of it. The Government must and will maintain and remove upon its basis. The Government must be preserved. All the constitutional rights of all the people must look for its ultimate success upon the conservative action of the people of one of all the States. It is due, however, to you and to our people, to assure you that when our General Assembly approved the proposed line of policy for the people of Virginia, they express what each one of the committee here present knows to be a living truth. I have given you your position places by men between us and a determined danger, and the General Assembly have but given voice to the real feelings of our people when they tender to you the warmest thanks of Virginia for the firm stand you have taken against the facility with which it is proposed to change the fundamental law. We would not, however, claim as the only or even the chief merit of the course you are taking, that it affords a resting point for the action of others. It is as the defender of the general Constitution, that you deserve and command the confidence and support of the people of the Union, and it will be hereafter remembered as your highest claim to the character of a republican statesman, that under all the trying circumstances by which you are surrounded, you have not only proclaimed the fundamental law of United States to be the supreme law of this land, but have defended it alike from violation and from innovation.

Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, February 10, 1866.

Speech of Hon. Thomas Williams.

The House was in session, as usual, on Saturday, for debate only. Three speeches were made, severally, by Wood, of New York, Delano, of Ohio, and Williams, of Pennsylvania. The latter speech elicited the greatest attention on the floor and from the spectators, as it proved to be a severe onslaught on the President's policy of restoration. The speaker declared against the admission of any Southern Representatives, and was opposed to the local State Governments set up in the South. He was entirely opposed to the late insurgent States having any equality in the Union until they meted out equal and exact justice to all men within their borders. A lively bill of the members gathered around Mr. Williams during his speech, and gave good rounds of applause when he concluded.

The Memorial Ceremonies.

There will be no business transacted in either House on Monday, as the memorial ceremonies will take place at noon, after which each body will adjourn for the day.

An Authoritative Contradiction

Of the statement is furnished that the recent conference of Generals here had any consideration to the question of trying Jeff. Davis by the Military Commission.

The Kinderpest.

Dispatches received to-day at the State Department from our Consuls at Liverpool and London, show the kinderpest is increasing with great rapidity, and the latest report says that it will not take many days to rid the entire kingdom of cattle at the present ratio of deaths. Ten thousand new cases had broken out in one week in January last. The number that have died thus far from the disease is sixty-three thousand.

The Cholera.

Our Consul at Malta writes that the cholera has not permanently abandoned that place. The physicians think it will increase in the spring.

To be Mustered Out.

On Tuesday fifteen additional paymasters will be mustered out of service, there being no longer any use for them.

Seventy thousand more applications to witness the memorial service on Monday have been made than there are seats.

The President Opposed to the Freedmen's Bureau bill.

The *Star* says the President is opposed to the bill just passed by both branches of Congress of the Freedmen's bureau to Maryland, Missouri and Delaware, and that he will return it to Congress to be modified in accordance with his views.

XXXIXth CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION

WASHINGTON, February 10.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MR. ROGERS, of New Jersey, gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill to repeal all acts of Congress exempting Government securities from Federal taxation, and to provide for taxing them by the Federal Government, and authorizing the States to tax them in the same way as other property. He also gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill giving bounties to soldiers and sailors and equal to higher Government bounty given at any time during the war, and also to equalize bounties.

MR. WARD, of New York, said he should not now enter into the discussion of the question as to whether the States which, by the action of their people and officials, had destroyed their union with the United States, had assumed that the legal relation of the States to the Union was not destroyed, and would stand upon the declaration of the lamented President Lincoln, that they were out of their practical relations with the Union, and deal with the question practically. They had committed the highest crime of laws, and should not be allowed to control their own State Governments, or have any representation in the Union, unless they gave security for the future; that security demanded that we should hand the leaders of the late rebellion over to the loyal men, so that their protection should be secure. We should establish the fundamental law, so that it would be beyond the reprices of Southern legislation, the principle of the equality of all citizens and classes, and vest them with all the franchises and powers necessary to defend and protect that equality. He would punish certain leaders of the rebellion for treason, so that that crime should be odious for all time to come. He would, before any of these men to come back, to make laws for the widow whose husband they had slain, and for the orphan whose father they had murdered, require them to do all this; and when the republic was reconstructed on a sound and just basis, and the Southern States show a sense of returning patriotism, then he would take them by the hand and lift them up to a higher national life, and, united, we would conduct the nation to its imperial destiny as the greatest and the best form of government on earth.

MR. DELANO, of Ohio, examined the present political position of the States lately in rebellion, and said that on its solution depends the present happiness of this nation. They ought, he said, to consider the question with a proper appreciation of their honest differences. Whether among members of Congress, or between them and other Departments of the Government, his purpose had been in all his examinations to be unbiassed toward those from whom he asked a like exercise of charity. He sincerely believed that if they were all animated by this spirit, the threatening clouds would pass away, and they would find themselves adjusting these measures in harmony and with the approbation of all, and thus would be sustained and preserved that party which, he believed, thank God, was raised up to do a great work in this land of liberty. There was a class of persons who insist that the late rebellious States are States in every sense of the word, in the Union, and are entitled to the right to demand representation on this floor. He did not know whether they were willing to admit representatives whose hands were yet red with the blood of our slaughtered contrymen. He did not belong to that class. He believed that these States are to-day in with the right of local and domestic legislation; yet he did not believe they now were in a condition to demand the admission of their representatives. Another class maintained that these States are dead and conquered provinces, and subject to be ruled by the law of Congress as any other territory. He had no more faith in this theory than he had in the doctrine, for he believed that these States have been destroyed and blotted out of being that Congress may thus govern them at its own pleasure. He, therefore, would not follow this theory of the gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. Stevens. That announcement startled him when it was first made, for he saw the consequence that if carried out, it would lead to the destruction of the Union. He was sorry that the gentleman (Mr. Stevens) was not above the assertion of that opinion.

MR. DELANO pointed out and considered the fearful consequences of that theory, arguing that the concession of belligerent right and the ruling in the prize cases did not convert them into foreign enemies. He some months since heard the key note of the gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. Stevens, that the property of ten millions of people should be subject to confiscation, and disposed of in part for the payment of the public debt, in part for the donation of the emancipated race, and to increase the pensions of those who suffered in the late war. He was shocked with the enormities of that scheme of mineral plunder, and he felt as if America would lose her reputation before the nations of the earth if she should adopt it. But it was based on the theory of dead States and conquered provinces, and those who put forth this theory had an intellect sufficiently clear to run out the proposition in all its logical consequences. The Duke of Alba executed the decree of a bigoted monster while in the Netherlands, but this gigantic scheme of plunder would make the Duke of Alba blush and admit that he was not a robber or murderer of a high character. Cromwell sent his Ironsides into Scotland to devastate that country, and withless there the infamous scheme of punishing with the halter and bloody axe; but before that scheme of plunder proposed by a member of this House, he stood appalled.

MR. STEVENS said he was absent from the hall when the gentleman made the allusion to him, and he desired now to observe that he had never held the doctrine that the Southern States were dead, but had argued that it made no difference what acts they did out of the Union as to the question of reconstruction. He held that those states were organized under another Government besides our own, but the gentleman mistook his position as to confiscation. He did not advocate a general sweep, but that the lands of a large number of the rebels ought to be confiscated in order to meet the expenses incurred in putting down the rebellion, and to increase the pensions of soldiers.

MR. WILLIAMS, of Pennsylvania, next spoke. In the course of his remarks, which were prolonged about two hours, he said that the word restoration was heard on the return of the Stuarts, and he expressed the hope that it was not ominous as to the future.

The House, at five o'clock, adjourned.

GOOD, IF LIVED UP TO.—The following is one of the resolutions adopted by the Virginia Legislature, which the delegation from that State bore to the President. As a piece of profession, it contrasts widely with the every-day practice in Virginia:

3. That involuntary servitude, except for crime, is abolished, and ought not to be reestablished; and that the freedmen among us should be treated with justice, humanity and good faith, and every means that the wisdom of the Legislature can devise should be used to make them useful and intelligent members of society.

ROMAN CATHOLICISM IN PHILADELPHIA.—A letter in the *Tablet* from Philadelphia says: "The great advancement of Catholicity throughout the United States is a subject for congratulation on the part of every Catholic, and on the record of its progress this diocese is entitled to a high position, probably of higher prominence than any other diocese in the country. The Catholics of this diocese number 250,000; of that number 125,000 are residents of this city, and the thirty-five churches are inadequate for the accommodation of this large number. The demand for priests and churches continues increasing to such an extent that much difficulty is felt in supplying them."

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

John M. Hall, residing on Harrison street, New York, committed suicide on Friday by shooting himself through the head. He leaves a wife and five children.

The *Tribune's* Paris letter says the gold medal for Mrs. Lincoln subscribed for in France, is to be presented by M. Albert Lenitre, a member of the Provisional Government of 1848, who has been selected by the committee to go to the United States for the purpose.

Late London letters say there is no general indication of a lowering of the bank rate. Seven per cent. may possibly be adopted in a short time, but this is the utmost relaxation looked for.

A Panama letter to the New York *Herald* says "it is to be regretted that Valparaiso has no fortification or armament to resist attack. I trust no orders have been given to the combined fleets of Chili and Peru to make an attack upon the Spanish fleet, if concentrated, for they are not strong enough for it, and might come to grief. The Spanish frigates, Villa de Madrid, Blanca Berenguia, and Resolucion, are all fast frigates, three screw steamers, admirably appointed, and the Numancia, an iron-clad, is pronounced by an officer of the United States Navy one of the most perfect ships of her class in the world. The third article of the treaty between Peru and Chili stipulates that a foreigner, if in the service of either power, is eligible to the supreme command of the fleet, if considered competent."

Washington advices represent that in Congressional circles, Napoleon's expressions in reference to evacuation are regarded as evasive and disingenuous, and it is thought he does not really intend to withdraw his troops unless our Government will recognize Maximilian, or enter into some other compromise in the matter. Many military men entertain the opinion that our force on the Rio Grande will be increased at once, and our affairs there be immediately placed on a war footing.

The case of Coles, the Lake Erie conspirator, being tried in New York, has been adjourned to the 26th inst.

A decision will be given in the case of Martin, the alleged rebel incendiary, on Saturday next.

John Henderson was arrested in New York on

The Daily Commercial

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1866.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Correspondence on matters of public interest is solicited and will be thankfully received from our friends and the public generally. Communications addressed to particular persons, where especially, whatever relates to the affairs of the Army and Navy, and the whole circle of intelligence in general, will be acceptable and interesting. Reports of local trade, mechanical and agricultural results, inventions and improvements of every description, and facts generally described, are solicited. To secure attention, communications should be brief, and entirely reliable, and should be sent as promptly as possible.

Letters connected with the business department of the newspaper or printing office should be addressed to the Business Manager. Communications designed for the paper should be addressed to the Editor.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

The high appreciation of popular education in this country has been a sufficient guaranty for the maintenance of schools, and for the attendance in them of the great body of the children of the people. The public school system is a result of the high estimate that the people place on education. It is designed to remove any obstacles that poverty or parsimoniousness might lay in the way of our children, and to open the door for the elementary instruction of all, poor and rich. Not only is general education deemed valuable as enhancing individual happiness, but also as conducive, or rather essential to the highest advantage of the State. It is a help to good government. The republican theory cannot be maintained without it. For the want of general education the Republics of the continent, except our own, are scarcely deserving of the honorable name of Republics. And in our own, the part that was weakest and most easily pervaded by morbid and destructive influences, was the part where public education was not maintained, while the section supplied with public schools was healthy and vigorous.

If there is a maxim on which perfect unanimity among orthodox statesmen exists, it is that education, embracing the cultivation of mind and moral nature, is indispensable to the safety, permanence and happiness of our nation as a Republic. Hence, patriotic people cheerfully support the educational system of the country; and for the sake of having it in the strictest sense popular, that is, embracing all classes of the people, they submit to the elimination from it of some things which they would prefer, perhaps, to have left in.

Yet, with all the privileges and facilities of education, there are numbers who do not avail themselves of the opportunities furnished for obtaining it; and the evil is in some places of such magnitude as to attract the attention of the more observant minds. In New York, and no doubt it is so in other cities, large numbers of children are growing up in utter ignorance, and, of course, with the wildness of vice in their habits, which such a class in cities always contract. In our own cities and boroughs, it is said, there are not a few children who never attend the public schools, or any other, for a sufficient length of time to gain even the simplest rudiments of learning. Of such are the unruly boys who steal old iron or anything else within their reach, who live on the river banks, subsisting on what they can beg or pilfer. This mode of life is but training them up to become pests in society, dishonest, brutal, dangerous characters, ready to prey upon society. For such compulsory measures to bring them under instruction, are proper and necessary. The idea of obliging a person to send his children to school may at first glance appear absurd and tyrannical. But is in perfect accord with the essential principles of our government, and with its practice in other respects, to which no exceptions are taken. The community has a right to protect itself from threatened physical dangers. The establishment of any business dangerous or even annoying to citizens, may be prevented by law. The many provisions of law which established public schools and imposed a tax for their support, implied the right to make them effectual to the extent of all the public. The public benefit which required the school requires that children should attend it or some other which is equivalent. A man who has no children to educate is taxed for the school, and the man who has children to educate is required to send them to the school. The public benefit is the basis of both claims. Compulsory attendance is quite as nearly within the range of public right as compulsory taxes. No person has a right to rear his children so as to make them a burthen or a danger to the interests of society. So far as education is concerned, he is bound to give them the benefit of the public school or of some other as good.

These things being so, the public school should be regarded as an institution closely connected with a government, and as such should be kept in the highest possible condition of excellence and efficacy. As it is meant for a common civil institution, auxiliary to the welfare of society, aristocratic objections to its secular character appear alike inconsistent with its true design. And any wish or purpose, built on these objections, for applying the public fund to schools of a different grade or character would be an obvious perversion. Whenever it has been proposed or covertly attempted, the common sense of the community has frustrated the design.

WHAT DOES HE MEAN?

There is after all thought to be some doubt about what the Emperor means concerning the withdrawal of the French troops from Mexico. A more careful translation of the vital passage in his speech on the subject has raised an important question on this point. The revised translation is as follows:

> I am coming to an understanding with the Emperor Maximilian *to fix a time for the recall of our troops in such a way that their return may be effected without compromising the French interests which we have to defend in that distant country.*

The original report incorrectly put the expression in the past tense, thus: "the French interests which we *have been defending* in that remote country," whereas the Emperor is now made to say, "the French interests which we *have to defend* in that distant country." The difference is as plain as it is important.

GREAT TUBS ON LITTLE BOTTOMS.

It is said that the world is sometimes deprived of the services of men who have all the requisites of greatness except a capacity of self demonstration, or, in a word, assurance. This sort of negative loss to the public, however, is less than the positive mischief accomplished by those in whom assurance and self appreciation are the chief qualifications. In the former case, if the individual has written a good book, invented a useful machine, or set forth a grand principle in philosophy or morals, though it may not essentially profit himself while living, the world has the benefit and recognizes his merit after he is dead. In the other case he does the mischief, and makes it to be felt when living, and the wounds he makes may continue to fester when he is dead. The vainglorious man—pompous and pretentious in manner and speech—always assuming to be wiser than his compeers, and ever ready to overwhelm with arbitrary verbosity, too easily gains from the general public the position accorded to him by his satellites, and which his assurance demands. If, as sometimes happens, he has genuine ability, probity, and common sense, withal, in proportion to his egotism—the latter weakness may give infinite force to the underlying strength, and stamp more deeply on the minds of cotemporaries, and on the page of history, his greater qualities. Without such corresponding ability he cannot long sustain himself in any position of mark. The disguise of the lion skin will in due time be penetrated, and unless his hide is tenfold thicker than that of the ass, he will be compelled to wince under the scourge of his master—the people. JOHNSTON's arbitrary vanity enforced his ability, but the vanity of BOSWELL, his biographer, or GOLDSMITH, his cotemporary, only rendered them ridiculous.

Under our republican form of Government vain and self demonstrative men are apt to imagine themselves peculiarly fitted for the post of legislators and leaders of the people; and in any canvass there will be found some of them always ready to offer themselves, that the public may have the benefit of their self-supposed fitness.

Too often are we ready to accept assurance, and glibness of speech on the prominent topics of the day, as indicative of the deeper and more solid qualifications which befit the men whom we should entrust with the destinies of the nation. In some countries a fool or a knave may attain a throne, and wear the robes of a king, but though he may mouth his "*L'etat, c'est moi*," like a stage tragedian, the people will soon discover that he is knave or fool, yet they cannot rid themselves of the incubus. It is happily different with us in America. Inordinate vanity, coupled with unbounded impudence, may gain a seat in the Legislature or in Congress, but unless the possessor has the ability of a BENTON, or the shrewdness of a first class demagogue, the very qualities by which he attains his elevation will lead him soon to betray his unfitness for it, and his career probably ends with his one term of office. Such a man never doubts his own ability—or the inferiority of others.

If he thought himself great—on the backwoods hustings, or before a country jury—how much greater when invested with the dignity of a legislator! The air of the Capitol is oxygen to the flame of his conceit. He imagines that upon his individual wisdom hangs the destiny of the nation, and the eyes of the world are centered upon him, or ought to be. He rushes to lead his party, and soon makes a demonstration. The "Associated Press" heralds throughout the land that Mr. SMITH offered the "following resolution," or that "amendment to the Constitution," or what not, or replied to the Hon. Mr. SLEDGEHAMMER. His speech is published, and a thousand copies mailed to his constituents; it is printed in the local newspapers. This *is* a blast on the trumpet of fame! But the sound and the echo die away, and the "party" moves on as if unimpressed alike by the magnificence of his effort, and the grand fact of his presence. He demonstrates again—another blast on the trumpet—and yet still he is not presented with the baton of leadership. The party moves on like a sturdy team doing its work. But why was the house so thin, and so many letters written during the speech? *He* knows. The qualities of NESTOR and DEMOSTHENES combined are too great a combination to be rightly appreciated! He feels that the team moves forward and does its work, though he may neither hold the plough nor drive. But he is irrepressible, he must be somebody, and will be—so he assumes the detestable office of a soor of gad fly. He whiggles about their ears and eyes, and pounces upon every tender spot; sometimes it is the leader, sometimes the wheel horse, and sometimes the whole team at which he pitches, and in this capacity he supposes that he is doing the best end of the work. He alone is right, he alone is the State—or ought to be, and if President, Cabinet and Congress can't see it, his constituents must! Sometimes they do not.

But those who get to Washington by mere windy assurance, are by no means all of so irrepressible a style of character. Another is less harmful, but quite as useless. He is content to get off one or two speeches—a sort of forcible-feeble reiteration of the newspaper press—and rests upon his laurels. He is satisfied that the requirements of Bunkum have been fully met. He feeds himself upon the consciousness of his high importance. He distributes "Patent Office Reports" and "U. S. Census" freely to his constituents, and—compounds with the public printer for their share of "U. S. Exploring Expeditions," "Pacific R. R. Survey," and like heavy documents. If any of his constituents stray to Washington, he glories in exhibiting to them the beauties of the Capitol from its *outside* too certain.

—provided they have good clothes and are "somebody" at home. And when he imagines their admiring eyes are fixed on him from the galleries, he sits his easy seat like a lord, and works like a beaver, for—he is franking his own speeches.

But there is another style—the most mischievous and least tolerable of all. It is the man who, on finding himself too slender in brain and resources to occupy that position in the majority which his vanity leads him to aim at, turns over, body and soul to the enemies of his country, and to the political party to which he owes his elevation.

Who can tell how much such pernicious clogs upon the wheels of right progress and good government have cost the country in time, treasure and patience, during the last fifty years? We do not mean to say there are any such men in the present Congress, but if any such there be—their constituency will find them out.

HOW IT WOULD HAVE BEEN.

In the present temper and actions of the Southern people, we have a little indication of what would have been their relations and intercourse with us, if they had succeeded in their rebellion. If now, prostrate in poverty, forsaken by the foreign friends who encouraged their former madness, and subject to the control of the United States Government they are so peevish and pugnacious, so ready to vent their ill-temper on the helpless race that is within their reach, and so ready to embarrass the measures of the Government for their restoration, how would it have been if they had become a nation by the victories of war? Imagination cannot set bound to the arrogance and iniquity of their demands. If as conquered, they are so captious and persistent in evil disposition and disorganizing measures, what would they have been as conquerors? This may make us more patient with their perversity, but at the same time it must show the necessity of being the more decided and uncompromising in maintaining and enforcing the decisions of the contest. The maniac may be hard to hold, but there is the more need to be resolute and persevering in the determination to keep him from doing harm to himself or others. The hope of better times affords the encouragement, and the idea of what, by the favor of Providence and the bravery of our men, we have escaped will add its stimulus to the effort. Time will crown it with success, and we shallbe not only a united nation but a peaceful and friendly one.

OPPOSITION.—Old-fogyism hates all improvements and innovations, decries progress as dangerous, and denounces new enterprises as opposition to old ones. Old-fogyism would be a poor hand at building up cities and extending business. One store, one blacksmith's shop, one newspaper could never be followed by a second without drawing forth a groan at the spirit of opposition. The old fogy must be at sword's points with every new comer in the same line of business as himself, as it is most reasonable to suppose that the new comer has no other aim or motive in view but to break down the quiet old fogy that somehow got on the grounds before him.

Under such hide-bound ideas business could never expand, enterprise could not venture into any new fields, and prudence—sometimes a questionable virtue—would defeat its own contracted purposes. Wholesome competition is the life of business, and is the delight of those who have escaped the torpid condition of old-fogyism.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF COMMON SCHOOLS.—The friends of education throughout the State are now greatly interested in the appointment of the State Superintendent of Common Schools. The two prominent candidates for the position are SAMUEL P. BATES, L. L. D., of Meadville, the present able Deputy State Superintendent, and Prof. WICKERSHAM, of the Normal School, Lancaster county. As the Western part of the State has never, since the creation of the office, been awarded the superintendency, a strong effort is being made to secure the next appointment from this section. The claim is one that should be allowed, and as Prof. BATES is the unanimous choice of the West, the friends of education here ask of the Governor his appointment. His eminent qualifications for the position are not unknown to Governor CURTIN, and if the unanimous desire of the Western counties has any weight the appointment of Prof. BATES may be relied on.

STILL THEY COME.—Two more amendments to the Constitution of the United States were proposed in the House of Representatives on Thursday last, bringing the total now pending up to about thirty. It is estimated that together they would of themselves be about twice the size of the original instrument. Few persons care to know what the last batch were, since nobody now regard the introduction a raid to be discouraged as a whole, with, perhaps, one or two exceptions. The thing has been so decidedly overdone that what at one time threatened to be an evil of immense magnitute, bids fair to work its own cure more effectually than anything else could possibly do. A revival of respect for the old instrument seems to us to be something to encourage just now.

OUR CURRENCY.—It is hard to please people on the score of money. Some people say there is too much of it, but the greater part of mankind complain that there is too little. Our currency is the best in the world. The quality is good, the quantity abundant, and it bears, without shrinking, the reproach and blame of all the exorbitant prices in the country.

THE result of the municipal election in Newbern, North Carolina, which resulted in the election of the out-and-out Union ticket by fifty-two majority, is certainly a cheering sign. The contest was an exciting one, and a fair and square stand-up fight, and a larger vote was cast than ever before. The Union boys hoisted the American flag, and all day sent out teams to bring in voters, and when the voting was over they had an old-fashioned rejoicing, in which Southern as well as Northern Unionists participated.

THE TAX ON REFINED OIL.

Appeal to the Internal Revenue Commissioners by the Pittsburgh Petroleum Refiners' Association.

At a recent meeting of the Pittsburgh Petroleum Refiners' Association, a committee was appointed to address the United States Internal Revenue Commissioners, on the subject of a reduction of tax on refined oils. The committee, in the fulfillment of their duty, have sent the following:

PITTSBURGH, February 7, 1866.

Messrs. S Colwell, S. & Hayes, D. A. Wells, U. S. Internal Revenue Commissioners, Washington, D. C.:

GENTLEMEN: The undersigned having been appointed by the "Pittsburgh Petroleum Refiners' Association," and representing that body, which is composed of nearly, if not quite all the refineries in this vicinity, respectfully ask your attention to the following facts:

1st. The Government tax on refined petroleum is twenty cents per gallon, and this amount must be paid on every gallon manufactured and sold within the United States.

2d. Frequently when shipping oil by rail or river, to be delivered East or West, it has been found impracticable to prevent leakage unavoidably occurs, and under the law as it now stands, there is no escape (except at the discretion of the Collector) from the payment of the aforesaid tax of 20 cents a gallon on the entire shipment.

3d. Frequently shipments of oil are wholly or partially destroyed by fire or other accident, in transit or at stations, after they have been returned to the Revenue Assessor, and the tax must in such cases be paid on the entire shipment.

The undersigned Committee would therefore respectfully ask your influence to obtain a law, by which, on fire, leakage, or other refined oil, which from above or other causes never reaches its destination,

An additional part of the duty imposed upon the undersigned was to ask your attention to the tax of 20 cents per gallon on the article known as naptha or benzole, and to express it as the opinion of the aforesaid Association, this tax is too high as to be almost prohibitory in its influence on the sale of this article.

Before the war, as the experience of all refiners will bear testimony, the sale of naptha was so restricted as to amount to almost nothing, and in most instances it was allowed to waste, as useless, or at most unprofitable product.

On the opening up again of the South to commerce, it is reasonable to anticipate that Turpentine, &c., will again form a part of the shipments from that section, and in as large quantities as before the war, but will not be so strict, if not wholly to destroy the trade in Naptha.

Again, the market price of the article will not now admit of any *profit* arising to the refiner from its manufacture, as all adequate to the tax of its production and transportation.

A few figures on this subject will go to show the result, and so prove that instead of producing the article and paying the tax of 20 cents per gallon, it were far better for the refiner to allow it to go to waste:

The average market price here of Naptha is, per gallon,	35c
Deduct from this the tax	20c
Labor filling, bunging, hauling, &c	1
Cost of treating	4
Barrel	10
	35c

Leaving one cent per gallon profit, which will not begin to cover the *single loss from evaporation*. This is no fictitious statement of figures, but can be demonstrated to be correct by the experience of every one engaged in the distillation of Petroleum, and therefore no doubt, but that, under present state of things in this tax, refineries in the future cannot afford to manufacture the article of Naptha.

Every refiner knows of the great leakage in New Barrels, and that twenty-seven gallons put in per cent. on the entire shipment; and the same remarks hold good in reference to the leakage of this article, as on refined oil; and the undersigned respectfully urge that, if not on the aforesaid article of Naptha be changed (and if not entirely removed) at least to the former tax, say 4 per cent *ad valorem*, then, we think, the price can be sufficiently reduced so that the article can be brought into common use.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

HENRY W. LONG,
CHAS. W. LOWSTON, } Committee.
BENJ. S. MUSGRAVE,

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

A young lady in Florida, who had been gradually becoming insane, lately destroyed her embroideries and letters, set fire to her clothing in a wardrobe, and dressing herself in heavy woolen fabrics and a broadcloth cloak, set fire to herself and sprang into bed, where she was found dead by neighbors. Her last words, after exclaiming, "Oh, ain't this glorious? Ain't I a martyr?" though her limbs and the back of nearly half her body were baked brown, she did not appear to suffer pain.

The French Academy has advanced as far as the word *Analogie* in the new edition of its dictionary. A meeting has been held to consider which each word is separately discussed. The part already completed fills five bulky volumes of 1,000 pages each, making the whole work that will require eight such volumes for itself. The entire work will be contained in about one hundred volumes.

We find the marvelous story in an Eastern paper that on Sunday night last some body snatched at Norwalk, Conn., dug up the body of a young lady who had been buried that afternoon, and unscathed beyond their anticipations. She had been interred partially in a cataleptic fit, and upon being exposed to the night air, animation was restored. The resurrectionists fled, and she walked home, where her friends refused to admit her, believing her to be a ghost. She then went to the house of a young man to whom she was engaged, left him, and on Monday morning they were married.

The Boston *Journal* says: "The last steamer brought the intelligence that Professor Agassiz's exploration of the main stream of the Amazon alone had resulted in the discovery of no less than 1,163 species of fish, which is a greater number than exists in the Mediterranean, in which Malte Brun claimed for it the richest fish ground. The Rio Negro, Tapajos, Trombetas, and Madeira rivers each more than a thousand miles long, it is estimated that there are several hundred more species, differing from those of the main stream.

The Rochester *Democrat* says that at a meeting of the Directors of the Western Union Telegraph Company, on Thursday last, the resolution authorizing the issue of guaranteed stock to the amount of $2,000,000, for the purpose of meeting bonds falling due, was rescinded, and it was determined to issue seven per cent. bonds to the same amount—convertible into the Company's stock at any time within nine years. Such bonds will be issued in part of the preference in taking those bonds, two millions of which will be offered to the present stockholders. The Directors took over half a million at the meeting.

The stockholders of the American Steamship Company, Boston, resolved at their recent annual meeting to take immediate measures for the reconstruction of a third steamship, to be placed upon the route between Boston and Liverpool as early as possible in the year 1867. Two vessels of 3,000 tons each are now under contract to be ready for sea next autumn; and these will perhaps be enough to answer the purposes of the line during the first winter of its active existence.

The question of levying a duty of ten per cent. on cotton to be exported, with a drawback of three or five per cent. on cotton, retained for home consumption, will be submitted to the vote of the people in a few days in the shape of a bill to that effect. It is said that it meets the approval of several members of the Ways and Means Committee.

The Dayton *Journal* says that it has been informed by an engineer on the Dayton and Michigan Railroad, that twenty-seven persons were drowned in the reservoir at Celina, Ohio, on Wednesday. They were attending school, in the vicinity of the reservoir, and were upon the ice all in full force. We noticed his two secretaries, M. Le Comte de Faverney and M. de Morogues, M. Harold Portalis, and M. Arthur de Pont, attaché. The British embassy was represented by Sir Frederick Bruce, Envoy Extraordinary, J. Hume Burnley, his first secretary, and other members of the legation. The Russians were represented by Baron de Stoeckl, the Envoy Extraordinary. We noticed Baron Limburg, the Minister of the Netherlands; Senor Dan Gabriel Garcia y Tassara, the Spanish Minister, and most of his suite, with their ladies; the veteran diplomat, Baron Von Gerolt, the Prussian Envoy; Baron N. G. Wetterstedt, the Swedish Minister; Commander Bertinatti, the excellent Italian representative, with many of the other foreign Ministers, including most of the South American republics. Of the other public characters there was an endless procession. All the Cabinet, the Supreme Court, the army, with the Lieutenant General, and a galaxy of single and double stars; the navy with nearly a frigate full of Admirals, Commodores and Captains; and we may say almost the two houses of Congress, without reference to politics, and with and without ladies. Of the ladies, by the way, it is impossible to speak; but it is admitted that there has never been a grander display of wealth and taste of costume and decorations. About ten o'clock dancing began in the magnificent picture gallery, and it was pressing far into the early hours of the morning. George Francis Train, Chevalier Wykoff, General J. Watson Webb and General B. F. Butler were among the celebrities.

"The Wards of the Nation."

The New York *Times* makes the following point, enforced, substantially, by Senator Fessenden, in his reply to Senator Sumner: While demanding an immediate and universal enfranchisement for their kindred, these negro representatives not only overlook the vastness and the almost miraculous suddenness of their release from *serfdom*, but they *forget altogether*, in their self-appreciation, that they are to-day a community for whose protection a National Commission at Charleston, if not of Corrections, has been established. Declared by their professional champions to be the "wards of the nation," they are the recipients of eleemosynary aid, not as individual paupers of the superior race receive charity, but as a separate community, having special and peculiar claims. The multifarious of a Freedmen's Bureau admitted by all thoughtful men not blind of party partisanship to be a necessity for the time at least, is manifest only upon the principle that the race of recently emancipated slaves is in a transition state; that their new social and industrial *status* has not yet been assimilated, practically, in all but exceptional cases, they are social aliens for the time by the very act of their emancipation, and that for terrible legal abilities which this social alienation entails—even if it be but temporary—entitle them to the eleemosynary aid which the liberality of Congress has provided.

The very existence of the Freedmen's Bureau implies that the condition of the negro, in his present transition state, is at best that of a minor; and yet those who most loudly proclaim the responsibility of the nation for the protection of its "wards" at the south are those who range with most offensive and indecent haste that these "wards," helpless, ignorant, and do generally, debased as they have been under the crushing heel of enforced servitude, shall be invested with all the privileges and immunities of citizenship.

What the Emperor Said and Did After His Speech.

The French Emperor manages ever to invest his words and movements with peculiar interest, and few there are who do not accord it to them. Apropos the following is a letter by the last steamer: "The Emperor and Empress, immediately after the close of the ceremonies, drove in an open carriage through the principal streets, and were received with loud cheering. The journals have not yet had time to express more than a general satisfaction at the pacific tone of the discourse, but the liberal papers and party will, it is said, seriously criticise the definition of it, in which the Emperor dissipates the illusion that he has any intention at present to "govern like old time" by any further extension of liberty. For some reason, which nobody seems to understand, the Bourse went down immediately after the speech, but to-day is rallying again.

"The Emperor was evidently very anxious to know the impression which his speech would have among the American community in Paris. This morning, in conversation with an American gentleman who is greatly in his confidence, he asked him what was the feeling among the Americans relative to that portion of his speech relative to the United States and Mexico; and upon being informed that it was highly favorable, his Majesty replied that he was very glad of it, as it was his intention and desire in the preparation of his discourse to assure the United States government that his feelings towards it were of the most amicable nature."

The French Minister's Reception in Washington.

The reception of the French Minister, on Friday evening, was one of the events in fashionable life in Washington. An account says: Marquis and Madame de Montholon received their friends and the French legation were assembled in full force. We noticed his two secretaries, M. Le Comte de Faverney and M. de Morogues, M. Harold Portalis, and M. Arthur de Pont, attaché. The British embassy was represented by Sir Frederick Bruce, Envoy Extraordinary, J. Hume Burnley, his first secretary, and other members of the legation. The Russians were represented by Baron de Stoeckl, the Envoy Extraordinary. We noticed Baron Limburg, the Minister of the Netherlands; Senor Dan Gabriel Garcia y Tassara, the Spanish Minister, and most of his suite, with their ladies; the veteran diplomat, Baron Von Gerolt, the Prussian Envoy; Baron N. G. Wetterstedt, the Swedish Minister; Commander Bertinatti, the excellent Italian representative, with many of the other foreign Ministers, including most of the South American republics. Of the other public characters there was an endless procession. All the Cabinet, the Supreme Court, the army, with the Lieutenant General, and a galaxy of single and double stars; the navy with nearly a frigate full of Admirals, Commodores and Captains; and we may say almost the two houses of Congress, without reference to politics, and with and without ladies. Of the ladies, by the way, it is impossible to speak; but it is admitted that there has never been a grander display of wealth and taste of costume and decorations. About ten o'clock dancing began in the magnificent picture gallery, and it was pressing far into the early hours of the morning. George Francis Train, Chevalier Wykoff, General J. Watson Webb and General B. F. Butler were among the celebrities.

PERSONAL.

—Among the claimants at the capital this winter is General John A. Sutter, of California, the pioneer of the Land of Gold, who is now a white haired old man, in extreme poverty. His liberality to American emigrants in the early days of the Golden State has brought him to this, and he now seeks at the hands of Congress indemnity for the seizure of his lands and the appropriation of his stock by parties of land grants. General Sutter is about the Capitol daily, and the sympathies of those who have read early California history are with him. General Sutter is Swiss by birth, and wishes to visit his native land. The appointment of a cheap consulate to some one of the towns of Switzerland is one of the things he is looking for.

—Gen. Grant is not going to Europe just at present, but will probably go there within a year. It is intimated that his friends want him to be out of the way so as to avoid political complications that he may be an available candidate for the Presidency in 1868.

—The Democratic candidate for Governor of Connecticut, Mr. English, has been a member of Congress, and is a man of ability. In the early part of the war he took a patriotic stand, and much so that he almost lost the confidence of the adamantines of his own party. His nomination affords evidence that even the Connecticut copperheads are affected by shame.

Napoleon I. was a fast eater, and therefore no gastronome, or one who prolongs his repast in order to do full justice to the viands set before him, and gratify, to the greatest extent, his desire and well educated organ of taste. The great captain would not, however, brook any delay when he wanted his meals, and hence in all his campaigns, a portable cooking apparatus was always at hand, so that at any hour, or in any place, on the march or in camp, chicken, cutlets and coffee could be served up. Before leaving Paris for Boulogne, to threaten, if not actually undertake the invasion of England, he spent thirty hours with the Councils of State and other officials, without his taking any other refreshments than two hurried meals and a few cups of coffee.

—It is written that:

> "A grimace on a river's brim,
> A yellow primrose was to him,
> And nothing more."

But when General Prim drew against her Majesty, the Queen of Spain, it was something of another color.

—Hon. John G. Sinclair, the Democratic candidate for Governor of New Hampshire, is an active, energetic, wide-awake politician. His selection is an indication that the party mean to make an effort to carry the election in March, but their prospects of success are not very flattering.

—Professor Mason, in a recent lecture at Edinburgh on Milton, said the poet had carefully studied the Scriptures and early British history to discover what subject afforded the greatest capabilities for a poem, and had selected a hundred subjects from which to choose before finally deciding upon the theme of Paradise Lost. One of these was the history of Macbeth.

—A Washington paper, in reply to a correspondent, who wants to know how a man should address 12 miles from Pittsburgh, and 1¼ miles above Deer Creek, on the Allegheny river, says: If the gentleman's clothes are whole and clean, and his face and hands have been washed, he will no more be debarred from a reception at the White House than he would be from his nearest neighbor's residence.

—The Augusta (Ga.) *Constitutionalist* says: "While in New Orleans, it may gratify our readers who love and venerate Ex-President Davis, to know, that twenty-seven times he lecture for the benefit of that great man's wife."

—Dr. Craven, the medical adviser of Jeff. Davis since his capture, has been mustered out of service, Dr. Cooper, post surgeon at Fortress Monroe, assuming charge over the prisoners there. Dr. C. returns to New York to resume a practice left at the commencement of the war. He represents the health and spirits of his late patient as excellent; and being furnished with the vagious papers and magazines, keeps well posted in the current topics of the day. The seclusion of the prisoner was accessible at all times to the Doctor and his family circle, and no more was of any time carried on, but from remarks dropped from time to time, he appeared resigned to his fate, whatever it may be.

DR. J. J. McBRIDE'S
KING OF PAIN.
KING OF PAIN.
KING OF PAIN.

Is still performing many wonderful cures. Here is a sample of the certificates we are receiving almost daily:

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Messrs. McBarran & McKennan.—*Gentlemen:* Having been troubled with a severe pain in my side, and finding nothing to give me relief, I was induced by the Rev. King of Pain, a bottle of which I purchased from you, I am now perfectly well and have my rest. Whilst I was taking the Pain King I was enabled to do my clothing being wet half the time. I will answer any that will address me.

Yours, &c., R. WHART, Mate S. S. Sampson.

We are receiving almost daily certificates from parties that have been cured. For further particulars call on

McCLARRAN & McKENNAN,
Sole Agents,
85 Market st., cor. Diamond near Fifth.

McBRIDE'S KING OF PAIN.
McBride's King of Pain,
McBride's King of Pain,

And all genuine Patent Medicines.
And all genuine Patent Medicines.
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by
All FLEMING'S Drug and Patent Medicine Depot,
At FLEMING'S Drug and Patent Medicine Depot,
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No. 84 Market st., cor. Diamond, near Fourth st.,
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Pittsburgh
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fe18

CLOCK'S EXCELSIOR HAIR RESTORER

Is the only Hair Restorer before the public that possesses all the qualities claimed for it. It restores gray hair to its original color, make hair grow on bald heads when falling off from disease, and is a positive cure for sick headache. It keeps the hair in curl much better than any oil or pomatum without their deleterious effects. Money refunded if it fails to give perfect satisfaction. Sold by all druggists and fancy goods dealers. Depot for the Manufactory, 115 Fulton st., New York.

Manchester, N. H.

McClarran & McKennan, wholesale and retail agents, Pittsburgh. Park & Brill, agents, Allegheny.

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NEW SKIRT FOR 1866.

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OR DOUBLE

SPRING SKIRTS,

Manufactured exclusively by the sole owners of Patent

WESTS, BRADLEY & CARY,

97 Chambers, and 79 & 81 Reade Sts.,

NEW YORK.

Each Hoop is composed of TWO finely tempered steel springs, braided together and firmly together on the edge, forming the STRONGEST and most FLEXIBLE Hoop made. They will not break, like the single springs, but will ever preserve their graceful flow of shape when all others are worthless and will have been thrown away as useless.

In fact, for the promenade or the home, the opera, theater or car, they are superior to all others, combining COMFORT, DURABILITY and ECONOMY, with that ELEGANCE OF SHAPE which has made the DUPLEX ELLIPTIC the

STANDARD SKIRT

of the fashionable world.

Merchants will be supplied as above and by Pittsburgh jobbers, and ladies in all the first-class retail stores in this city.

☞ Inquire for

Bradley's Duplex Elliptic Skirt.

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OF PITTSBURGH, PA.

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(Near Suspension Bridge.)

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PURE WHITE BURNING OIL,

BRAND, "LUCIFER."

This Oil cannot be excelled for burning properties, color or fire test, and is put up in well seasoned barrels suitable for HOME USE or EXPORT.

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FOR SALE.

High or nine ACRES OF LAND in Ohio township, on Pit shurgh Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad, near Dixmont station. There is a Dwelling House and out buildings, and an assortment of fruit trees shrubbery, &c., on the land. Inquire of JAMES GILLELAND near the property, or of R. H. DAVIS, Allegheny.

fe5-2w2d MARTHA HOOD, Newark, Ohio.

NOT FOR A DAY BUT FOR ALL TIME.

PIONEER YEAST POWDER.

It is good for Tea Cakes, Bread, Pie Crust, Muffins, Dumplins, Buckwheat Cakes, Corn Bread, &c., &c. Try it and satisfy yourself that it all we recommend it. Manufactured by Taylor & Young, 186 Front street, New York, and for sale here by

JAMES CONNOR,
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J. A. RENSHAW.

fe7-1m

TO PRODUCE MEN.

The undersigned desires to make arrangements with men in the Western part of Pennsylvania and Ohio, for the shipment of all kinds of country Produce, either to buy or sell on commission. Having a large trade both in Philadelphia and New York we are able at all times to obtain the best market prices. The best of references furnished to all parties. Please address for particulars,

JANNEY & RAMSAY,
No. 202 South Second st. Phila., Pa.

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OCULIST.

DR. STERRETT,

277 PENN STREET,

Removes Cataract by a new operation, causing but slight pain; inserts Artificial Eyes that move in crooked cases; opens the obstructed tear ducts, so as to dispense with the unsightly style, &c. feb9 tf4 1tw

WALL PAPERS,

IN NEW DESIGNS.

Plain and beautiful bright colors, now receiving in great variety, at

JOS. R. HUGHES & BROS.,
107 MARKET STREET,
fe10 near Fifth street.

SHINGLES, SHINGLES,

SHAVED AND SAWED.

16 and 18 inch Weatherboarding, planed and jointed; dry, clear Plank and Boards; Flooring, and all kinds of lumber, at

C. C. BOYLE & CO.'S Yard,
fe1-6thM Above Suspension Bridge, Allegheny.

PRODUCE.—

50 bbls. Green Apples:
2 " Flaxseed.
2 " Eggs:
3,000 lbs. Buckwheat Flour. In store and for sale by
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NEW GOODS. NEW GOODS.

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At 18¾c two cases fast colored PRINTS.

At 25c best makes of PRINTS.

At 25c good dark GINGHAMS.

At 25c one case of PLAIN DELAINES.

At 91 two cases ALL WOOL CASSIMERES.

At $1 25 good KID GLOVES, black and colored.

At $3 one case BALMORAL SKIRTS.

ALL WOOL DELAINES.

BLACK AND COLORED SILKS.

GINGHAMS.

TICKINGS.

FLANNELS.

CASSIMERES.

BALMORAL SKIRTS.

GLOVES, HOSIERY, &c., &c.

NOT FOR A DAY BUT FOR ALL TIME.

PIONEER YEAST POWDER.

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3,000 lbs. Buckwheat Flour. In store and for sale by
J. S. DILWORTH & CO.
Nos. 190 and 192 Second street.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

☞ **NOTICE.**—The Books will be opened to receive subscriptions to the capital stock of the National Insurance Company of the City of Allegheny, at the office of the Allegheny Trust Company, on Monday, March 12th, 1866, between the hours of 10 A.

The Daily Commercial

FEMALE LECTURERS.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Your correspondent in a late number, now that this controversy is maintained by six on this side to one on the other, thinks it begins to look like "Fair Play." I am very much obliged for the compliment which seems to be intended. I will return it by acknowledging that "Fair Play" strikes the strongest blows I have to parry. His production would do "pretty well" for either man or woman. But "Fair Play" takes issue on much more than I have asserted: all that he says about the teaching of mathematics and skating and the classics to girls, and all about the powers and productions of the female mind, and the widening of woman's sphere and the breaking down of barriers, may pass for an arrow shot wide of the mark. They serve merely to ornament the sketch of "FairPlay," and to conceal the real weakness of those of his assertions which aim more to the point. He denies that there is a point at which the rights of woman should stop. And although I am not the "rash man" to assert where it is, I seek to show where reason and the right instincts of men and women place the dividing line and exclaim "thus far and no farther."

The *palpable contrasts* that nature shows in the formation of men and women are an argument for different spheres of operation. Opposite powers demand opposite opportunities of action: where man is strong in body, woman is weak; where man is bold, woman is timorous. The voice of man is strong and full and sonorous, and capable of reaching with unspent force the very limits of a crowded hall; woman's voice is gentle, formed on a fine key, and tunes to tones more tender; its sweetness is lost when strained in the exertion of haranguing a crowd, and when the fierce denunciation, the heavy dramatic or the rousing appeal is attempted, that voice, so powerful when employed in its natural uses, degenerates into a shrill squeal that wants the force and thunder that the words and the occasion imperatively demand. Can we imagine a woman repeating with effect the philippics of Demosthenes or the words of Patrick Henry in the Assembly of Virginia? The speaker and her subject would be just as ill matched as for a man to deliver in the Websterian style, with lofty look and dramatic gesture, the words of "Mary had a little lamb, its fleece was white as snow."

But this is a hard matter to reason upon by demonstration; and if "Fair Play" will recollect that the burden of proof lies upon the affirmation that "they ought to lecture," he will hardly repeat his call for "actual demonstrations" when the demonstrations ought to come from his side; and there is nothing like mathematics involved in the question. We can only argue by referring to the results of the thing, and appealing to the keen instincts of man, which, if they go no further, at least make us feel that it is an anomalous position for a woman to fill. If it is admitted that there is no barrier between the sexes, what argument is left, to bar them from the polls, the Legislature, or from any profession of man; the rough and unsought, as well as the honorable and the popular? And, on the other hand, has a man a right to encroach on the peculiar offices of women? And yet Sardanapalus handed down his name to perpetual infamy because he left his work as a man and devoted himself to sewing and the other employments of his wives. And then, too, he would have to change the appropriate language of comparison, and would have to speak of women as wolves and lions instead of as pigeons and lambs and doves, and the eagle-eyed Dickinson, and the lion-hearted Evans, and the lamb-like Smith, and the dove-eyed Brown. But does not this distinction between men and woman, male and female, exist throughout all nature? Is not the animated creation gifted everywhere with different voices, expressive of the different attributes of the two sexes? To my mind, it seems about as unnatural for a woman to lecture as for a hen to crow, which is said to be a sure sign of a death in the family. But I believe that sometimes a man is born who would have been better born a woman, and women who aspire to be men, and these exceptions and prodigies would overthrow all rules and mould society to suit their own unnatural cases.

On the main point of this discussion I cannot see where "Fair Play" brings any further argument against me. As to the peculiar case of Miss Evans, I do not dispute that it would be almost as improper for a young man of her age to give public advice to young women. They would be most likely to tell him to tarry in Jericho till his beard was grown. Advice don't come with a good grace from exuberant youth. Gray hairs, or, at any rate, full development of body and mind, would command more respect. At least let him be old enough to be liable for his words and contracts. I admire the writer's quotation from Schiller, but surely the "faith" and "purity" of girlhood is not what leads a woman to the stage or stump. I fully indorse his sentiments as to the rarity of true eloquence, and the aristocracy of mind and republican equality; but if we utterly ignore all distinctions of "color and sex," &c., we might lose our liberties as did France, where such extremes produced their natural results—anarchy, infidelity, and an empire. If the Skating Park, in the way of business, choose to import a theatre actress to show how perfect practice may make an art, and to display the wonderful graces with feats which they can never expect to equal, I say nothing against it, for I have enough to do to oppose "Female Lecturers" alone against "Fair Play" and foul. PRESBYTERIAN.

[With this we must ask the disputants to suspend, for a time at least.—ED. COM.]

A Fine Opening.

To the Editor of the Commercial:

Now that the waters have been troubled, permit me to add a drop of ink to those already cast in.

My attention was yesterday, and again this morning, called to an item in your column of Wants, which struck me as a very forcible exhibition of the injustice which has ever characterized men's dealings with women in a business point of view. A female teacher is required for the House of Refuge, one who is a Tailoress as well. For her service in this two-fold capacity, she is to be remunerated by the sum of $250 00 per annum. In the same item a Yard Officer is wanted for the Refuge, salary $450 00 per annum. I am informed that it requires about the same degree of intelligence and business tact to be a yard officer as to take care of horses or drive a carriage; which a man of ordinary, or less intelligence, can do, without even knowing how to read, or spending a single day in apprentice. But what is required of the woman? She must be competent to teach, and a tailoress besides. A young woman has spent several years in the acquisition of knowledge necessary for a teacher; all the time she has so spent she has perhaps felt herself a burden to a widowed mother, or upon the kindness of a hard-working, generous brother, but she consoles herself each day with the belief that as soon as she is qualified as to books, she can support herself, assist her self-sacrificing mother, or repay her generous brother. When she feels that she is competent to assume her duties as a teacher, she eagerly scans the daily paper hoping that a situation will present itself; she catches a glimpse of the advertisement referred to, and her heart is light for an instant, but only an instant, for in the same line she reads that this teacher must also be a tailoress, and she knows nothing of the avocation. Poor girl! she has had no six months or a year in which to acquire the knowledge. Mr. Editor, will you look at this for a little? For this woman's duties as teacher, for which she has spent years of preparation, and her labors as tailoress, for the knowledge of which she has spent at least six months—for even men are not expected to acquire a trade in less time—she is to receive a little more than half the sum which is the least he receives, who has perhaps spent not a single day nor dollar in preparation! Why not employ both a teacher and tailoress? or if one is required to perform the duties of both, why not allow her the same remuneration which the man receives for the performance of his duty? Verily we need a "New Atmosphere," for when I think of this, and similar acts of carnole injustice I am stifled. EQUITY.

Give 'Em a Chance.

MISTER EDITER: I hev red with much complaisance and various feelings, the different opinuns brought forard in the discushun on the subject of femail lecturers.

Before goin ahed, it wood probebly be best far to define my posishun; I am not a Elder of a church, I hevent redd Hamilton or any work of a similar descripshun, I hev never maid my apperunce on the publick stage, cept once; and that was tween this an Butler as an inside passenger, and I remember it to my sorro. Consequentially I consider I ar unperjvied in the case, onli I must konfes to a grate admirashun of the femail sex, which "Presbiterun" seems too think is immoril; it kant be helpd if I unfeeng, for it hes run in the race of man sinc the dais of Adum.

Fur my part, I say help the girls along to make a honest livin, an to inkrease their nollegd. Old Napolyum was a unsolvable foe to a feller, an he said he'd improve the morals of France by elycatin the mothers. The girls exercises a grate influunse wharever they form part of societe, and whar they don't, like in the fie diggins, there's whar you finds cussins, weepins and awailins, and hashin of teeth. The fact is, Mr. E., I kunsider a man no man at all as prefers lite amuline to womun. Sho urs a nice, desent, honest livin in a way he aint got the ability too. I onners the gurl as has the grit to maik her own dreses and I kan see the plat of her needin' to be shunned so long as the mark aint a disgrasful one, it taiks labor to do it, an if labor wasent so unfashionabil, I fear wud be a grate many less of the idle butturflise we sees in our streets, and "Presbiterun" wudent need to be so afrade of the social evil as he seams to be.

Educate the gurls—they'll lurn the boys. If ole Jimmi Buckinannun had had a lecturin' strong-minded wife, I dont believe we'd hev had this bludsky war. She'd a put a little brickbone inter the limber Jack.

I hev alwers thot my inkle Jake, and a man of sum experiense, havin berryd six wifes an now kortin' the sevunth, an' he remarked with emphysis, "Sound on the Guse."

Yures, regretfully,

OBIT E. R. DICTUM.

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ja27 m'wtf

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February 3, 1866. Account of John Lindsey, Committee of the Estate of Zachariah Bell, filed and Court order public notice to be given that said account will be confirmed absolutely unless exceptions are filed on or before March 8, 1866.

fe6-3m BY THE COURT.

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ACIDS, CHEMICALS,

CRUDE AND REFINED OILS, SALT, &c.

Office, No. 28 WOOD STREET,
ja15-6m under St. Charles Hotel.

BREWERS.

H. DARLINGTON. J. M. CARSON. W. STEARNS

WHEELING BREWERY.

MALT,

MALT,

MALT.

30,000 bushels Prime Spring and Fall BARLEY MALT, for sale at the lowest market rates, by

H. DARLINGTON & CO.,

(Successors to George W. Smith.)

Maltsters, Hop Dealers, and Brewers of Ales, Porter Brown Stout and Lager Beer,

ja16-3m WHEELING, W. V.

PHŒNIX STEAM BREWERY.

JOS. SPENCER.....JAS. M'KAY

SPENCER & McKAY,

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OF

ALE, PORTER, AND BROWN STOUT,

Pittsburgh, Pa.

ROBERT WATSON, Manager. ac31-1y

JOHN GANGWISCH,

UNION LAGER BEER BREWERY.

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No. – PENN STREET, FIFTH WARD,

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PAINTERS.

BAKEY & BROTHER,

HOUSE AND SIGN PAINTERS,

NO. 294, SECOND FLOOR,

Corner of Seventh and Liberty streets, Pittsburgh.

fe28-1y

WINTER GOODS.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN BEAVER, NUTRIA & SEAL

Caps, Gloves and Mufflers.

LADIES' FUR GLOVES,

SUPERIOR QUALITY.

FOR SALE BY

R. H. PALMER,

no29 84 Wood street.

SAWYER'S

Pure Ambrosial Vegetable Compound

FOR SHAVING AND THE TOILET.

A Great American Discovery

No other Soap, foreign or domestic, has ever been offered, which meets the public wants as completely as this excellent Compound. Thus far its success is unparalleled, and it now bids fair to take precedence of all others in the market.

Sold by the Druggists, Confectioners, and Grocers generally. A directory is given below of some of those who are engaged in selling it. Those not on it will soon be parties abroad and at home, who desire to order.

B. A. Fahnestock's Son & Co., Druggists, Pittsburgh.
B. L. Fahnestock & Co., do do
R. E. Sellers & Co., do do
Woodside & Wallace, do do
Mackeown & Bro., do do
George Bassett, do do
Miller & Ricketson, Grocers, do
Watt & Wilson, do do
Edward Hamilton, do do
John Lippincott, do do
Little, Baird & Patton, do do
Lorz & Duff, do do
Schoonmaker & Lang, do do
Reymer & Bros., Confectioners &

The Daily Commercial

CITY MATTERS.

FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION.—A special meeting of the Firemen's Association will be held this evening in their hall, in the city buildings.

NEWSBOYS' HOME.—The lady managers of the Newsboys' Home will hold their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday afternoon, at three o'clock, and a general attendance is desired by the President.

GYMNASTIC ASSOCIATION.—The members of this Association contemplate giving a public exhibition shortly, and a special meeting will be held at their rooms at Wilkins Hall this evening, for the purpose of making the necessary arrangements. A general attendance of the members is desired.

PATENTS ISSUED.—Among the patents issued from the United States Patent Office, for the week ending February 6, and bearing that date, were the following: Thomas Stewart, of Pittsburgh, for improvement in tuning rakes; George W. Stoeckel, of Pittsburgh, Pa., for improved graduated bottle.

HALL IN BIRMINGHAM.—A ball was given in the Town Hall in Birmingham on Friday night, for the benefit of Phillip Hoerr, which resulted in a complete success. Mr. Hoerr, who enlisted in the 63d Pennsylvania Volunteers, lost a leg while in the service of his country, and the ball was given to procure him an artificial limb. About two hundred and fifty dollars were realized.

SUPREME COURT.—In the Supreme Court, in session at Philadelphia, opinions were read on Friday in the following cases:

Leech vs. Caldwell. Error to Common Pleas of Armstrong county. Judgment reversed and *venire de novo* awarded.

Snydam vs. The Northwestern Insurance Company, et al. Error to Common Pleas of Allegheny county. Opinion by Strong, J. Judgment affirmed.

A GOOD APPOINTMENT.—David McKelvy, a well-known police officer, has received the appointment of Captain of the Allegheny Night Watch, vice James Reed, removed. The Mayor was favorable to continuing Mr. Reed in the position, but the Police Committee declined to confirm late appointments, when a compromise was effected by the selection of Mr. McKelvy. The committee declined to give any reason for their hostility to Mr. Reed.

HORSE THIEF SENTENCED.—Samuel A. Logan, who was convicted at the December term of the Court of Quarter Sessions of larceny as bailee of a horse, buggy, and set of harness, the property of Andrew Jackman, livery stable keeper on Penn street, was sentenced on Saturday morning by Judge Martin to undergo an imprisonment of two years and three months in the Western Penitentiary. The prisoner was conveyed to that institution during the afternoon by Sheriff Stewart.

FIRE.—The alarm of fire on Saturday night about 10 o'clock, was occasioned by the partial burning of some clothing in the store of H. & M. Oppenheimer, No. 82 Market street. The fire was occasioned by the overheating of the stove, which was fired some wood work, but very little damage was done. Some articles of clothing were slightly damaged by the smoke, and water from the hose, but this the loss is trifling. A young man had his hand severely cut by breaking the windows to get into the store, the doors being locked.

JUDAISM AND CHRISTIANITY.—Notwithstanding the rain yesterday afternoon, a very large audience assembled in the Central Presbyterian Church, to hear the pastor, Rev. Dr. Jacobus, deliver the first of a course of lectures on the very interesting subject of "Judaism and Christianity." The learned divine treated his subject free from prejudice, and referred at length to the past and ultimate glory of Judaism, observing that Christianity was indispensable in formation and consummation of Judaism, and that Judaism will become more glorious than ever when she will have embraced Christianity.

A MYSTERIOUS CASE.—On the 29th of January last, James D. Henderson, formerly a lieutenant in the army, left his home in Philadelphia for the purpose of visiting the Western States. On the 5th inst., a gentleman named Martin received letters from a person signing himself J. W. Donnely, stating that Henderson had died suddenly in this city a few days before. His friends immediately wrote to Donnely, inquiring into the circumstances connected with Henderson's death, and also where the body was buried, but received no answer. Suspicion is now entertained that Henderson met with a violent death, after leaving here, proceeding to the spot he found the body, which was terribly mutilated about the face, occasioned undoubtedly by the body coming in contact with the ice. The body was taken to her former residence in West Philadelphia. Coroner Lawson was notified and held an inquest yesterday, which resulted in a verdict in accordance with the above facts.

Shooting Affray in Allegheny.

The quiet and orderly residents of our sister city were disturbed yesterday by a shooting affray, which occurred between two young lads, named James Powell and Robert Dalzell. It appears that during the afternoon a number of lads were standing on the bank of the river, in the Eqourth ward, when a difficulty sprung up between Powell and Dalzell. Powell, who is a large and well developed lad, struck Dalzell a severe blow in the face, and was following up his advantage, when Dalzell called to him, by saying that if he did not let him alone he would shoot him. Powell laughed at the threat, and was about recommencing the assault, when Dalzell drew a pistol from his pocket and fired, the ball taking effect in Powell's thigh, inflicting a severe and painful wound. Officer Wm. Bowden, of the night police, who happened to be in the vicinity, arrested Dalzell, and took him to the Mayor's office. At the hearing of the case Dalzell acknowledged that he shot Powell, but alleged that he did so in self defense. He also stated that a difficulty had taken place between them a short time ago, and that he had placed the pistol in his pocket to protect himself from an assault which Powell had threatened to make upon him. Powell is about nineteen years of age, and Dalzell seventeen. The Mayor held Dalzell to bail in one thousand dollars to answer a charge of felonious assault and battery. His father entered the security required, when he was released from custody. Powell's wound, although severe, is not considered dangerous.

The Stre t Crossings.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

I am a daily reader of your excellent journal, and am always glad to see its familiar face turned up for an hour or so's chit-chat in the morning, and always find so much variety in the varied character with which to regale my appetite and break the fast for that day, that I can jerk down my vest and smooth down my front with an aldermanic air, that indicates entire satisfaction with the caterer of my morning repast. But there is one little condiment, dear COMMERCIAL, that I miss, and that is, if you please, to sprinkle up this our daily feast—that is, if you draw on your boots and take a walk through our city, and make a tour of observation as to the condition of our street crossings, and then give us the result and the comparative merits of Pittsburgh crossings and any other city of any pretension whatever. Oh, wouldn't our city fathers and the street commissioners catch it until they would *mend their ways!* If you have but time for this walk, just poke your head out of the front window of your sanctum and take a look at the crossings on Fifth and Smithfield streets and see if you ever saw its equal in *field streets* and see if you ever saw its equal in field streets and see if you ever saw its equal in field streets and see if you ever saw its equal in field streets